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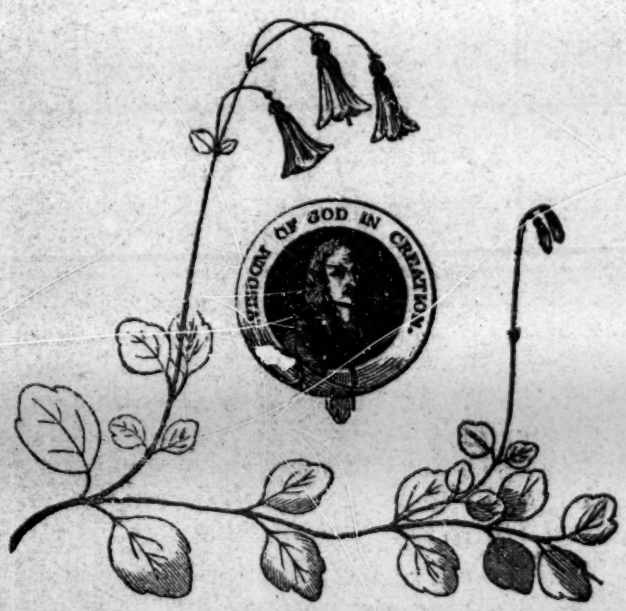

TANTUS AMOR FLORUM.

LONDON:

JOHN VAN VOORST, PATERNOSTER ROW.

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BOTANICAL NOTES AND QUERIES.

British Cyclamens.—Whether there exist two species of Cyclamen in England or not I cannot say, never having had the pleasure of finding the Cyclamen wild. There are, however, certainly two distinct species, C. europæum and C. hederæfolium. The following description, translated from a 'Flora of the Canton of Vaud,' will clearly show the great difference between these two species:—

C. europæum.	*C. hederæfolium.*
Leaves almost orbicular, heart-shaped, crenulate, appearing with the flowers; corolla pink. Perennial: May and August.	Leaves heart-shaped, acuminate or elongate, angular, and crenulate, appearing after the flowers; corolla pink or white. Perennial: September and October.

—*H. L. de la Chaumette, Church Street, Stoke Newington.*

Derivation of the Name "Osmunda" (Filices).—The derivation of this name seems to be uncertain as yet. In the last edition of the 'British Flora,' by Sir W. J. Hooker and Dr. Walker-Arnott, it is supposed to have been derived from two Saxon words, *os*, signifying house, and *mund*, peace, "domestic peace." I should feel much obliged to any of our learned botanists if they would say whether the translation of the term as in Lindley's 'Alphabetical Table of the Etymology of Genera' at the end of his 'Vegetable Kingdom,' is not to be relied upon; he states there that it is derived from the Latin *osmundare*, to wash the mouth. Is this at all likely to be the proper derivation, and if so, how would it be applied to the fern?—*Id.*

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